

NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

Release Date: December 22, 1999

Release Number: 99-103

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Internet Address: www.sba.gov/news/

SBA ADMINISTRATOR NAMES NEW DIRECTORS FOR TWO DISTRICT OFFICES

WASHINGTON – Aida Alvarez, Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), today announced the appointments of two officials to lead SBA district offices in Delaware and Des Moines, Iowa. The new district directors are Jayne Armstrong for Wilmington, Delaware and Cheryl Eftink for Des Moines, Iowa.

"It is with great enthusiasm that I make these appointments," Administrator Alvarez said. **"Both Ms. Armstrong and Ms. Eftink bring with them the knowledge, experience and expertise that will provide the leadership necessary to propel forward the small business communities in Delaware and Iowa."**

As the district director, Ms. Armstrong is responsible for the management and delivery of the SBA's financial assistance, business development and counseling programs for the state of Delaware. She will also oversee operations of the SBA resource partners like the Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) and the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) chapters. Ms. Armstrong becomes the first district director of the Delaware office, which opened May 20, 1999.

Ms. Armstrong has served as the district director of the agency's West Virginia office. Her responsibilities included managing 12 SBDCs, four SCORE chapters, a Business Information Center and a One Stop Capital Shop. She also served as regional advocate for the Philadelphia office, where she worked to increase the awareness of small business issues and helped organize the White House Conference on Small Business.

Ms. Armstrong holds a Master of Arts degree in Public Administration and a Bachelor of Science degree, both from West Virginia University.

Ms. Eftink, a seasoned government official with over 20 years of federal service, all with SBA, has been selected as district director of the agency's Des Moines office.

As the district director, Ms. Eftink will oversee the management and delivery of agency programs that provide financial assistance, management counseling and business development programs in the 70 western counties served by the Des Moines District Office. She will direct the activities of 19 SBA employees; administer a business loan portfolio of 2,283 loans worth more than \$207.8 million; and oversee operations of the SBA resource partners like the SBDCs and the SCORE chapters.

Ms. Eftink most recently served as the acting district director for the Des Moines office. She also served as deputy district director, where she was responsible for the delivery of advocacy and outreach programs, in addition to managing daily office operations there.

Ms. Eftink attended Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

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